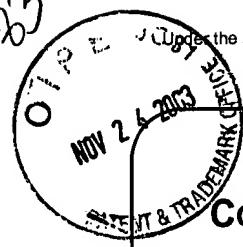


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23
**REQUEST
 FOR
 CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
 TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

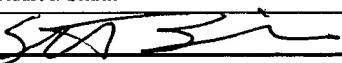
Application Number	09/664,533
Filing Date	September 18, 2000
Examiner Name	Dionne Walls
First Named Inventor	Vernon E. STATON et al.
Group Art Unit	1731
Attorney Docket Number	40575-182634

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1.	Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
a.	<input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____ (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____ iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
b.	Enclosed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Preliminary Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time
2.	Miscellaneous
a.	<input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
b.	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
3.	Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 22-0261 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other additional claim fee
b.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$ <u>724.00</u> enclosed
c.	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Stuart I. Smith		
Signature			
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,159		
Date	November 24, 2003		

VENABLE
 P.O. Box 34385
 Washington, DC 20043-9998

SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.
 PC Docs No. 501362

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01 FC:2801
 02 FC:2201

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